

DETAILED ACTION

1. The Amendment to the Specification filed 9/14/06 has been considered and entered.

Examiner's Amendment

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

3. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given during a telephone interview with Henry Feiereisen on 4/22/08.

4. Please amend the Abstract the following manner:

(Abstract, Lines 3-4) The term "programme" has been replaced by --program--.

3. Please amend the claims the following manner:

(Claim 22, Line 3) The term "said part program" has been replaced by --said at least one part program--.

(Claim 27, Lines 2-3) The term "the workpiece material" has been replaced by --a material of the workpiece--.

(Claim 28, Line 6) The term “said threshold values” has been replaced by --said threshold power values--.

(Claim 31 Line 1) The term “method of claim 20” has been replaced by --method of claim 23--.

(Claim 31, Line 5) The term “said part program” has been replaced by --said at least one part program--.

(Claim 33, Lines 4-5) The term "said step sequence" has been replaced by --said sequentially executed machining steps--.

(Claim 36, Line 3) The term “machining operations, number of machining operations” has been replaced by --machining operations and number of machining operations--.

(Claim 37, Line 5) The term “additional component, overheating” has been replaced by --additional component and overheating--.

(Claim 38, Lines 8, 14 and 17) The term “said part program” has been replaced by --said at least one part program--.

(Claim 38, Lines 18) The term “a program pointer” has been replaced by --the program pointer--.

(Claim 40, Line 2) The term “said part program” has been replaced by --said at least one part program--.

(Claim 43, Line 2) The term “the material of the workpiece” has been replaced by --a material of the workpiece--.

(Claim 44, Line 4) The term "said part program" has been replaced by --said at least one part program--.

Reasons for Allowance

4. Claims 20, 22-38 and 40-45 are allowed.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

While Monette et al. (PCT WO 01/82009 A2) disclose wirelessly reading out workpiece data carriers, Tanaka et al. (U.S. Pat 4,823,255) discloses part programs, step sequences pointers for designating addresses, Bashan et al. (U.S. Pat 5,241,160) discloses wirelessly reading out data carriers, Seki et al. (U.S. Pat 5,315,524) discloses part programs and re-executing program statements and Schlansker (U.S. Pub 2003/0120897) discloses resetting pointers. None of these references taken either alone or in combination with the prior art of record discloses:

(claim 20) "an operating method for a machine tool for machining a workpiece, including: wirelessly reading out at least one part program from a workpiece data carrier assigned to the workpiece, wherein the at least one program includes a program pointer and transmitting a new program pointer to the workpiece data carrier when execution of the step of the at least one part program ends and updating the program pointer with the new program pointer",

(claim 38) "a machine tool for machining a workpiece including: means for wirelessly reading out at least one part program from a workpiece data carrier assigned

to the workpiece, means for wirelessly reading out a program pointer assigned to the workpiece from said workpiece data carrier and means for transmitting a new program pointer to the workpiece data carrier when execution of said at least one part program ends, so that the new program pointer updates the program pointer stored in the workpiece data carrier”,

in combination with the remaining elements and features of the claimed invention. It is for these reasons that the applicant's invention defines over the prior art of record.

Conclusion

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance”.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Carlos Ortiz-Rodriguez whose telephone number is 571-272-3766.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paul Rodriguez can be reached on 571-272-3753. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Patent Examiner
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April 25, 2008

/Paul L Rodriguez/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2123